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## SCIENTIFIC NEWS.

John Rafs, a student of the Desmids, died at Penzance, July 14, aged eighty-three years.

Dr. L. W. Schaufuss, the entomologist, died July 19, at Dresden, Germany.

Dr. Alexander von Bunge, formerly Professor of Botany at Dorpat, died in Livland, July 18, aged eighty-seven years.

Peter Maasen, a lepidopterist of Dusseldorf, who has made a specialty of the Saturniidae, died August 18.

The Society of Physics and of Natural History of Geneva celebrated the one hundredth anniversary of its foundation October 23.

Alfonse Farre, formerly Professor of Geology in Geneva, is dead at the age of seventy-seven years.

Dr. A. Müller, formerly Professor of Mineralogy and Geology in the University of Basel, died July 3.

W. Kitchen Parker, the well-known anatomist of London, died in that city, July 3, aged sixty-seven years.

Dr. Ernst Weiss, the author of a work upon the plants of the Carboniferous, died in Berlin, July 4.

Dr. W. Waagen, of Prague, has been called to the chair of Geology in the University of Vienna as successor to the late Prof. M. Newmayer.

E. Ray Lankester has been made ordinary Professor of Zoology in the University of London.

Dr. Carl Chun, of Königsberg, has been called to the University of Breslau, as successor to Prof. A. Schneider.

D. Oliver has resigned the directorship of the Kew Herbarium. His assistant, J. G. Baker, has been promoted to the place thus left vacant.

Sir Warrington W. Smith, the geologist, died in London, June 19, aged seventy-three years.

Prof. St. George Mivart has been elected Professor of the Philosophy of Natural History in the University of Louvain.

Mr. G. C. Bourne has resigned his position as Director of the Marine Biological Laboratory at Plymouth, England.

The Abbe S. A. Marseul died in Paris, April 16, 1890, in his seventy-ninth year.

Professor Franklin C. Hill, D.Sc., Ph.D., Curator of the E. M. Biological Museum, Princeton, died recently of heart-disease. Professor Hill, who was sixty-three years old, was educated at his father's private school in Philadelphia. He also studied medicine there, and after graduation entered Harvard, where he studied engineering, graduating there.

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"In loving memory of Frances Evans, daughter of Joseph Phelps (of the island of Madeira), born August 21, 1826; married John Evans July 23, 1859; died at Nash Mills, Hemel Hempstead, September 22, 1890."

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These are the simple but touching lines of the mourning card telling us of the death of a loving wife and the loss and grief of an affectionate husband. Prehistoric anthropological science has met a loss in her death not indicated in the notice, and which merits more than the formal announcement.

Mr. John Evans is well known in other countries than his own; but the nearer his home the more his worth is recognized. He is a self-made man, has made a fortune by his own exertions and ability, and has as well made a name in science. He is numismatist, geologist, archaeologist, anthropologist, and geographer, and occupies a high position in these societies in Great Britain. He is author of the leading works on the prehistoric implements and objects of stone and bronze of Great Britain. His house is a museum and library combined, and is filled with rare and costly specimens. It is also a home, one of elegance and luxury, and here reigned as queen the subject of this sketch. How much of the scientific attainments of Mr. John Evans was due to the aid, counsel, and encouragement of his wife no one but he can know. She was his partner, helpmeet, assistant; she kept his references, was custodian of his papers, and virtually the curator and keeper of his museum and library. She accompanied him in his many journeys, going everywhere throughout Europe; she listened to and applauded his speeches, and was the comfort and solace of his life. She looked forward with bright anticipations to visiting the United States at the proposed International Geological Congress in 1892. Science has lost more in her death than it knows of. Her bereaved husband has my sincerest condolence and sympathy.—T. W.

Miss Cooper, a daughter of the novelist, James Fenimore Cooper, states that when in Paris she saw a French translation of her father's tale, "The Spy," in which there were several mistakes, but one of them was such that it was almost incredible that any one could possibly have been guilty of it. The residence of Mr. Wharton, one of the characters who figure in the story, is spoken of by the author as "The Locusts." Now, the translator had been evidently ignorant of the circumstance of there being any species of trees bearing this name. Having, therefore, looked out the word in his dictionary, and finding the definition to be given as "les sauterelles" (grasshoppers), thus he rendered it in the text. Presently, however, he came across a paragraph in the novel in which it was stated that a visitor to the house of Mr. Wharton had tied his horse to a locust. Then it might be naturally supposed that the translator would have at once discovered his error. Not a bit of it! His reasoning would appear to have been somewhat on a parity with that of a celebrated countryman of his when he declared that "if the facts do not agree with the theory, so much the worse for the facts." Nevertheless, the writer seems to have been conscious that some explanation was due of so extraordinary a statement as that a horseman had secured his steed to a grasshopper. So he went on to gravely inform his readers that in America these insects grow to an enormous size, and that in this case one of these—dead and stuffed—had been stationed at the door of the mansion for the convenience of visitors on horseback.—*Bookmark.*